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Department  
of Human  
Services

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# Articles in Today's Clips

**Wednesday, June 11, 2008**

(Be sure to maximize your screen to read your clips)

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## Grand Blanc man sentenced in Internet case

**Posted by Shannon Murphy | The Flint Journal June 11, 2008 08:07AM**

A Grand Blanc man, 32, was sentenced Tuesday in federal court to 10 years in prison after chatting on the Internet with someone he believed was a 13-year-old girl.

Officials said Christopher Tufnell engaged in a series of online conversations with an undercover Ohio police detective posing as the girl. The conversations occurred between June 5 and July 29, 2007.

Officials said Tufnell indicated a desire to have sex with the teen, proposed specific acts, gave her his phone number and scheduled a date and time for them to meet.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service and the Toledo Police Department.

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## **Woman arrested on attempted murder charge**

**JENNIFER LINN - STAFF WRITER**

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

By Jennifer Linn

Daily News Staff Writer

A 37-year-old Ludington area woman was arrested on a charge of attempted murder in Allegan County and another woman was questioned Tuesday, according to the Allegan County Sheriff's Office.

Police said a 39-year-old man from Allegan County's Laketown Township was assaulted early Tuesday morning. When deputies reached the man he was bleeding from the head and he was taken by ambulance to Holland Hospital, where he was treated and released.

The 37-year-old Ludington woman was found walking down the road in the vicinity where the assault occurred.

Mason County Sheriff Laude Hartrum said his deputies in Mason County were called to do a wellness check on an 8-year-old girl, the suspect's daughter, at a residence at 5906 W. Meisenheimer Road. Upon arriving at the residence, deputies heard suspicious behavior and forced entry.

They found the 8-year-old girl, another woman and several other people in the home packing up to leave town, Hartrum said.

Hartrum said the girl was turned over to the Michigan Department of Human Services and interviewed and later released to her father, the assault victim.

Deputies from Mason County held the woman at the Summit Township home until deputies from the Allegan County Sheriff's Office could arrive to question her and do an investigation at the home.

The 37-year-old woman is expected to be arraigned this afternoon in Allegan County and police said more information should be available at that time.

[jlinn@ludingtondailynews.com](mailto:jlinn@ludingtondailynews.com)

# Abraham May Get Eased Restrictions

ClickOnDetroit

POSTED: 6:17 pm EDT June 10, 2008

UPDATED: 7:40 pm EDT June 10, 2008

A Pontiac judge will consider easing bond requirements for a man arrested last month on drug-dealing charges who was 11 when he fatally shot a man a decade ago. Judge Michael Martinez told defense attorney Richard Morgan on Tuesday to submit a request that would allow 22-year-old Nathaniel Abraham to leave his home for job hunting and recording sessions at a Detroit studio. A hearing will be held June 26. Assistant prosecutor Beth Hand says it must include a detailed schedule and people who can verify his whereabouts. Martinez says Abraham tested positive for marijuana after his arraignment. Abraham was arrested May 30 in Pontiac, where he killed 18-year-old Ronnie Greene in 1997. He was convicted of second-degree murder and finished serving a juvenile sentence in January 2007.

# Security tapes to come into play in Abraham case

BY JOHN WISELY • FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER • JUNE 11, 2008

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Gas station security cameras could shed new light on Nathaniel Abraham's actions on the night police arrested him on drug charges.

Investigators have a court order to retrieve tapes from the Sunoco station on North Perry Street in Pontiac, where Pontiac police and Michigan State Police troopers arrested Abraham on May 30.

Abraham, one of Michigan's youngest murder convicts, is charged with possession with intent to deliver more than 250 tablets of the club drug ecstasy.

Pontiac District Judge Michael Martinez postponed a preliminary examination for Abraham until July 14 to give prosecutors and defense attorneys a chance to review the tapes.

Abraham is free on bond. He wears a Global Positioning System tether to track his movements and is required to stay inside his mother's home when he's not in court.

Abraham's lawyer, Richard Morgan, asked the judge to consider changing Abraham's bond to allow him to visit a Detroit recording studio where he cuts rap albums and to leave the house to look for work.

Assistant Prosecutor Beth Hand noted that court officials couldn't verify Abraham's employment status and that he acknowledged to them that he had been using drugs before his arrest.

Martinez is to rule on the request at a hearing scheduled for June 26.



Wednesday, June 11, 2008

**Pontiac**

# Abraham seeks away time

## Bond change urged for pursuit of jobs, rap career

**Jennifer Chambers / The Detroit News**

**PONTIAC** -- Nathaniel Abraham, one of Michigan's youngest convicted murderers, needs time away from his home confinement to look for a job and record rap music, his attorney argued Tuesday in court, where the 22-year-old faces drug charges.

Pontiac District Judge Michael Martinez will decide on June 26 whether to change Abraham's bond, which now requires him to wear a GPS tether 24 hours a day and remain confined to his mother's home in Pontiac.

Abraham, who made international headlines in 1997 when he was charged with first-degree murder at the age of 11, was arrested May 30 after an alleged drug deal in the parking lot of a Pontiac gas station.

Oakland County Assistant Prosecutor Beth Hand argued that Abraham should remain confined because of the severity of the charges against him: a 20-year felony for drug possession, in addition to his prior conviction for second-degree murder and his recently admitted substance abuse problem.

"We do believe he is a threat to society," Hand said.

Martinez set July 14 to hold Abraham's preliminary examination on the drug charge. Police say Abraham had 254 Ecstasy pills in his possession. He was charged in 50th District Court with possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance.

Abraham was accused of shooting an 18-year-old Pontiac man with a rifle from a hilltop. An Oakland County jury convicted him of second-degree murder. In January 2007, Abraham was released from juvenile detention at age 21.

Abraham, who wore a conservative gray suit with light pin-stripes on Tuesday, declined comment.

His attorney Richard Morgan said in court that Abraham has no ability to make money if he's confined all day and that Abraham would like two to three hours a day to look for a job and schedule time with a recording studio in Detroit.

Court officials said Abraham violated his bond the day after his arrest when the charge in his tether died, cutting off his reporting signal. Hand said Abraham was found at home when he was called by authorities. His home confinement will continue until the hearing June 26.

Daniel Bagdade, who represented Abraham at his murder trial and throughout his state-ordered rehabilitation, said Tuesday he came to the hearing to offer Abraham emotional support, but he would not be an official attorney on the case.

"I will be there every step of the way for him. I will never give up on Nate," Bagdade said.

*You can reach Jennifer Chambers at (248) 647-7402 or [jchambers@detnews.com](mailto:jchambers@detnews.com).*

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# Youth violence expert: collaboration, engagement are key to curbing problems

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

BY REX HALL JR.  
rhall@kalamazoogazette.com  
388-7784

KALAMAZOO -- Collaboration and the engagement of youths are key if local leaders want to successfully address violence in Kalamazoo, an expert on youth culture and violence said Tuesday.

"Adults must check our egos at the door and just come together and work," Carl Taylor, a sociology professor at Michigan State University, told a crowd of about 70 people in the Lincoln International Studies School auditorium. "Our target is to reduce violence for young people in this area."

Taylor and his brother, Virgil, also an expert on youths and violence, were in town providing their recommendations for addressing violence in the city following a 10-month assessment of the community that included discussions with local residents and youth leaders.

The Taylors' visit was part of the first phase of the Kalamazoo Youth Violence Prevention Initiative, an effort spearheaded by Bob Ezelle, executive director of the Greater Kalamazoo Boys & Girls Club; Douglass Community Association Director Tim Terrentine and Pastor Milton Wells, of Open Door Ministries.

The initiative seeks to address violence by providing support for youths and their families through education and the pooling of community resources. Several city leaders attended the event, such as Mayor Bobby Hopewell, City Manager Kenneth Collard, Acting Department of Public Safety Chief Jim Mallery, Kalamazoo Public Schools Superintendent Michael Rice, city commissioners and members of local service organizations.

The city has much to be proud of in working with youths, including efforts to help them take advantage of The Kalamazoo Promise college-scholarship program, Carl Taylor said. But for the new initiative to be successful, he said, churches, schools and service organizations must work together to bring about programs that assist and engage youths and their families.

At the same time, he said, youths must be held accountable for their actions and not accept violence as a way to deal with problems.



“You will reap what you sow,” Carl Taylor said. “If you do not connect to young people with this initiative -- all young people -- you will only have yourself to blame.”

The Taylors said other communities have implemented successful programs that engage youths. As an example, Virgil Taylor pointed to a program that looks at graffiti as a form of art and expression and offers a way to get youths involved in the arts.

A similar program could be successful in Kalamazoo, he said, but only with the help of volunteers and organizations working together.

“We’re talking creation and implementation of a movement,” Virgil Taylor said.  
“We’re working to create a synergy.”

The Taylors’ presentation came almost 10 months after Carl Taylor’s initial visit to Kalamazoo. That visit followed the deaths of William Berry, 14, in March 2007 and Timothy T. Palmer, 18, in July and an Aug. 4 white-supremacist rally downtown. Ezelle said Carl Taylor will give local youth leaders a draft of his recommendations, which will be posted for the public on the youth-violence initiative’s Web site, [www.kyvpi.org](http://www.kyvpi.org).

“There is no problem here that we see that you guys can’t fix,” Virgil Taylor said.  
“The critical issue is that violence is not acceptable. Our young people need to know there are other ways to deal with things.”

Hopewell said he looks forward to the next phases of the youth-violence initiative.

“I think it’s a good start,” he said. “I think the call is going out from all over the community that it’s going to take everyone. ... I think the work has started.”

June 10, 2008

## **HOUSE LABOR APPROVES EARLY OUT, RETIREMENT FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE WORKERS**

In an effort to cushion the blow from recent decisions to close or consolidate operations in the Department of Corrections, the House Labor Committee on Tuesday approved two bills that would give an early out or early retirement option for some employees in the Department of Human Service's Bureau of Juvenile Justice.

[HB 5944](#) and [HB 5966](#) are intended to offset a budget decision made in the current fiscal year that resulted in the closure 80 medium security beds and 131 workers laid off at the W.J. Maxey Boys Training School. Money from those savings was then spent on adding 150 field staff positions within DHS, as well as adding 138 foster care and 138 child welfare positions. The Department of Management and Budget doesn't support the bills because they allow for unfunded liability in the retirement system and because any early out bills have the potential to create a "brain drain," officials testified.

But brain drain isn't the problem, muscle drain is, said employees of W.J. Maxey Boys Training School.

One employee, David Baker, said that layoffs left an older staff behind leaving everyone more vulnerable to the felons housed within Maxey's walls and these bills would rectify that by opening up positions for younger people.

The legislation would apply to bureau employees laid off or displaced on or after October 1, 2007 and on or before September 30, 2008. Displaced workers would be considered those active employees who have to move from their assignment location due to layoffs, workforce reductions or facility closures.

Those people would be offered two options for early out: those whose age and service years are equal to or more than 70 years could receive a retirement based on number of years worked multiplied by 1.5 percent of their average salary and those whose age and service years are equal to or

more than 75 years could receive a retirement allowance based on a multiplier of 1.75 percent.

The legislation also would designate bureau employees after October 1, 2007 as "covered positions" under the State Employees Retirement Act. Currently, that designation is given to Department of Corrections employees. The bill would then make bureau employees with the last three years of their position designated as "covered" eligible for supplemental pension at age 51 if they had 25 years of service, or at age 56 if they had worked for 10 years.

DMB recommended changing the definition of covered position in the version voted on by the full House, saying that the current definition is too broad. A good model to use in order to narrow the focus, the department suggested, is the State Employees Retirement Act.

[Rep. Lorence Wenke](#) (R-Galesburg) was the only committee member to vote against the legislation.

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

## Elder care may strain fed coffers

**Their health in 90s, 100s could have dramatic effect on Medicare and Medicaid, experts say.**

**Thomas Goldsmith / Raleigh News & Observer**

At 109, Alberta Thompson began life in the 19th century, lived every minute of the 20th and, despite some trouble getting around, remains sharp in the 21st.

Until recently, Annie Laurie Williams, 105, climbed up and down the stairs at her Five Points, N.C.-area home, part of her routine of daily exercise and a diet built largely on fruits and vegetables.

And Dr. Harold Eliason, a retired physician, celebrated his 104th birthday in February.

All three centenarians are trendsetters.

About 95,000 Americans are now 100 or older, census estimates show, and their numbers are predicted to more than quadruple by 2030, reaching 1.15 million by 2050.

How healthy they remain in old age may have a dramatic effect on federal entitlements such as Medicare and Medicaid, health care experts say. The annual cost for treating elderly and disabled people under these programs is \$400 billion, Congressional Budget Office numbers show. The vital question: Will people in their 90s and 100s have longer periods of mobility and independence, or just more years of disability and dependence?

"If we don't do a better job, this really large group of people who reach advanced old age will be a burden on our health care system," said Dr. Jack Guralnik, an epidemiologist and gerontologist at the National Institute on Aging in Maryland.

# Homeless man pinned by car at People Mover station

BY JOE SWICKARD • FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER • JUNE 11, 2008

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A homeless man was severely injured this morning when a car jumped the curb and struck and pinned him at the Fort Cass People Mover Station.

According to witnesses, shortly after 8 a.m. a gray Ford Focus bearing the license plate “Furious” jumped the curb when it swerved to miss a white van at the Fort and Cass intersection, and struck a homeless man who frequents the area. The homeless man is described as an older man. No further details are known at this time.

Yaser Virk, 29, a parking lot attendant, said he had just spoken to the man, who has hung around the area for about 10 years. Virk had turned to tend to a customer and went into his booth when he heard the loud crash. He said the homeless man was pinned against the People Mover station structure.

“He was alive, but his legs were, like, crunched.”

Police were at the scene and investigating. The impact knocked out one of the glass panels at the station, and at least one of the victim’s shoes was still in front of the structure, along with his hat.

The driver appeared unharmed.

The station is temporarily closed, and Detroit transit police were waiting for investigators to arrive at the scene.

*Stay tuned to [freep.com](http://freep.com) for more updates on this story.*

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

**Group reaches out to mentally ill on the streets with help for a fresh start**

Kimberly Hayes Taylor / The Detroit News

With a can of Keystone Ice beer by his side, Jonnie Jarrett III rests on a black garbage bag on a patch of grass on Detroit's East Jefferson Avenue.

His back's on the ground, knees pointing to the sky, when he's interrupted by Karen Smith and Alan Johnson, caseworkers with Detroit Central City Community Health Inc.

Johnson says hello. Jarrett jumps to his feet.

"Do you need a place to live?" Johnson asks. "Do you want to get off the street?"

"Yes, I'm ready," the 50-year-old tells him before slowly perching on the garbage bag again. "I'm very ready."

That's what the caseworkers hope to hear. They scour the city streets and various sites -- Hart Plaza, Belle Isle, under bridges, in vacant houses and buildings -- for homeless people, many of whom are mentally ill, who are tired of living on the streets. Johnson and Smith offer a special opportunity: come to Peterboro Street, in the city's Midtown section, and get help to start a new life.

Not everyone wants to get off the streets, but Jarrett seems eager. "This is kind of good," says the native Detroiter who completed eighth grade, did prison time and never worked a job. "Every time I try to get some help, I can't get none."

A private nonprofit organization now in its 36th year, Detroit Central City specifically seeks to help people with severe and persistent mental illnesses, such as chronic depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder -- conditions often paired with alcohol and substance abuse.

On Thursday, Detroit Central City is getting a needed boost from some high-profile Metro Detroiters who are hosting a yacht cruise fundraiser aboard the Ovation on the Detroit River.

More than 90 percent of the Detroit Central City's clients were previously hospitalized for psychiatric treatment. Some were once housed in state mental health institutions, but were turned out to wander the streets in the 1990s, when the last of the state institutions closed. The severely mentally ill homeless population is frequently turned away by other agencies because many of them are uninsured, but Detroit Central City is committed to serving them, vowing to avoid turning anyone away.

And where many organizations provide short-term help like food or maybe a temporary place to sleep, Detroit Central City helps mentally ill homeless people find long-term housing options.

**Burdened by stigma**

People with mental illness often are misunderstood and more research needs to be done to help understand their needs and how to help them, says Wally Prechter, an honorary co-chair of the fundraiser who became more informed about mental illness when her husband Heinz Prechter, a prominent Detroit businessman, suffered from bipolar disorder and ultimately committed suicide in July 2001.

"We need to uplift people's lives who suffer from these illnesses," says Prechter, founder of the Heinz C. Prechter Bipolar Research Fund of the University of Michigan Health System. "I do believe the work I do today will help destigmatize mental illness."

Through fundraising, Detroit Central City, which focuses its services on Detroit's downtown and Midtown areas -- areas with the highest concentration of homeless people -- hopes it can collect \$75,000 to continue serving the uninsured who have severe mental illnesses.

There is a significant need for such help here, says Irva Faber-Bermudez, president and CEO of Detroit Central City.

"We know there probably are 15,000 homeless people on the street in Detroit on any given night, and about 40 percent of them report mental health problems," she says. "They may have lost their jobs because they are disorganized, can't get to work on time and can't accomplish their work objectives. They may have lost their homes because they lost their incomes."

Caseworkers often find that people on the street who need mental health care are men in their 50s and 60s, says Faber-Bermudez, though she also notes an increase in younger male clients. Bermudez says sometimes the homeless are chased away, robbed, abused and even beaten up.

"Often times, they are victims of violence," says Faber-Bermudez. "It's not safe sleeping outside at night because of the elements and others who want to take advantage of them. It's an intolerable situation, it's very difficult. Sometimes they don't know where to turn."

A wide range of assistance

When people like Jarrett come through the organization's doors, they are assessed by a social worker, psychiatrist, caseworker and nurse. The group determines a mental health diagnosis, provides medication and then begins the process to find the person a home and guide him or her to other needed services.

Last year, the group, which has a \$9-million annual budget, provided 4,094 people with mental health, drug or alcohol treatment, a 14-percent increase over the previous year, according to Faber-Bermudez.

Also in 2007, Detroit Central City found housing for 930 people, including placing them in some of the 70 units in its building at 10 Peterboro St.

In addition to its own units, the group works with landlords to place people in apartments around the city.

Herb Strather, a Detroit casino and real estate developer who owns hundreds of Detroit apartment units, is collaborating with Detroit Central City to help with housing needs and to create programs with the group.

"We have an obligation," he says.

An honorary co-chair of Thursday's event, he notes that people can help in other ways, too.

"If someone can't go on the cruise, send a check," he says.

Strather says the homeless must try to help themselves, but adds: "Let's do more to help them help themselves."

Caseworkers Johnson and Smith find Walter Mitchell, 56, who has been sleeping on two pieces of cardboard on Belle Isle.

Peering from bright white sunglasses, Mitchell says he worked for Chrysler for 28 years, and became homeless six months ago when he lost another job.

After Johnson details the program, Smith offers encouragement.

"We're going to look for you, Mr. Mitchell," she says. "We can help you get a place to live and a job."

Mitchell promises to show up.

"This is a good effort," he says of the program. "I'm tired of sleeping outside."

You can reach Kimberly Hayes Taylor at (313) 222-2058 or [ktaylor@detnews.com](mailto:ktaylor@detnews.com).

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

### **Elder care may strain fed coffers**

Their health in 90s, 100s could have dramatic effect on Medicare and Medicaid, experts say.  
Thomas Goldsmith / Raleigh News & Observer

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"If we don't do a better job, this really large group of people who reach advanced old age will be a burden on our health care system," said Dr. Jack Guralnik, an epidemiologist and gerontologist at the National Institute on Aging in Maryland.





June 11, 2008

## Habitat for Humanity's Mason store opens

### Midday update

*Kathryn Prater*  
*Lansing State Journal*

MASON - Habitat for Humanity's ReStore resale shop has opened in Mason.

The 14,000-square-foot store at 132 S. Cedar St. sells donated new and used items. People may donate furniture, appliances and other merchandise, such as light fixtures, sinks, paint and lumber.

Proceeds help Habitat for Humanity build homes in Ingham County.

The store, staffed by four or five volunteers at a time, targets people who can't afford to move but need to fix up their existing homes.

There are other Habitat ReStores in Lansing and Williamston. For more information, call 676-9900.

Contact Kathryn Prater at 377-1063 or [kprater@lsj.com](mailto:kprater@lsj.com).

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## Rotary awards \$655K in grants

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Wed, Jun 11 2008

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TRAVERSE CITY -- Rotary Charities of Traverse City awarded 25 grants worth a combined \$655,000 to local agencies to assist with their professional development.

Recipients of program, capital and capacity building grants include: \$40,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Michigan to fund a development director and program, \$50,000 to Fourth and Goal for Thirlby Field renovations, \$25,000 to Mt. Holiday for kitchen renovations and \$75,000 to Old Town Playhouse for regional box office and online ticketing services.

The next grant deadline is Sept. 2.

Eleven planning grants also were awarded from January to May. Among the recipients were the Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District, with \$3,811, and \$3,500 to the Grass River Natural Area.

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## **Construction and building market news**

### **Construction and building market Size, Market Share, Market Leaders, Demand Forecast and Sales Company Profiles, Market Research, Industry Trends**

**June 10, 2008**

#### **AmeriCorps Members Revitalizing Benton Harbor Community**

BENTON HARBOR, Mich., June 10 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- On Wednesday, June 11th and Thursday, June 12th more than 250 current Michigan's AmeriCorps members from all over the state will focus on rejuvenating Benton Harbor's neighborhoods. As part of the 2008 Russ Mawby Signature Service Project, AmeriCorps members will apply their service skills at Harbor Habitat for Humanity sites in the Crystal Estates neighborhood. Projects will include landscaping, building sheds, constructing subfloors, and framing.

"We thank Michigan's AmeriCorps for choosing Benton Harbor to host this year's Signature Service Project," said Mike Green, executive director of Harbor Habitat for Humanity. "Their time and enthusiasm will help us jumpstart the Crystal Estates neighborhood. This unique service opportunity is another example of how Benton Harbor remains a 'City of Promise'."

The 2008 Signature Service Project is a partnership between Michigan's AmeriCorps, Habitat for Humanity of Michigan, and Harbor Habitat for Humanity. The SSP is an annual event serving a different community each year. Michigan's AmeriCorps is a program of the Michigan Community Service Commission, a state agency that helps strengthen communities by building a culture of volunteer service.

"When you see AmeriCorps members in action during the Signature Service Project and serving in their local communities, it's a powerful demonstration of how volunteerism is changing Michigan's landscape for the better," said Musette A. Michael, executive director of the Michigan Community Service Commission. "Communities and organizations all over the state are able to achieve goals far beyond their normal capacity because of the service of nearly 1,000 AmeriCorps members in Michigan."

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY WHEN: Thursday, June 12, 2008 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. WHERE: Crystal Estates neighborhood in Benton Harbor 911 S. Crystal Ave. Benton Harbor, MI 49022 WHAT:

AmeriCorps members will landscape, build sheds, construct subfloors, and frame for Harbor Habitat for Humanity.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Russ Mawby Signature Service Project is an annual event where AmeriCorps members from all around the state join together for a day of service. By the end of the day, many projects are completed, visibly demonstrating the impact of AmeriCorps members in action. This year's event is a partnership between Michigan's AmeriCorps, Habitat for Humanity of Michigan, and Harbor Habitat for Humanity.

Michigan's AmeriCorps is often described as the domestic Peace Corps. Individuals, called members, take on the challenges facing communities by serving within nonprofit organizations, schools, and other agencies throughout the state. They tutor and mentor children, help the homeless, feed the hungry, protect the environment, and more.

In a recent report released by the Michigan Community Service Commission, 2007 Michigan's AmeriCorps members:

-- Completed over 700,000 hours of service and training. -- Recruited nearly 24,000 volunteers who served more than 188,000 hours. -- Impacted over 120,000 students, citizens, and volunteers.

Michigan's AmeriCorps, administered by the Michigan Community Service Commission, currently has 19 AmeriCorps programs and engages approximately 950 members. The MCSC builds a culture of service by providing vision and resources to strengthen communities through volunteerism.

In 2007-08, the MCSC granted more than .9 million in federal and state funds to local communities for volunteer programs and activities. These funds support 19 AmeriCorps programs, 23 Learn and Serve programs, and 13 Volunteer Investment Grant recipients. The Governor's Service Awards and Mentor Michigan are also premier programs of the MCSC. The MCSC is housed in the Michigan Department of Human Services, whose mission is to assist children, families, and vulnerable adults to be safe, stable, and self-supporting.

Harbor Habitat for Humanity is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, Christian housing ministry and an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. It seeks to eliminate poverty housing, and to make decent and affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action. HHFH invites people from all walks of life to work together in partnership to build houses with families in need. Since its start in 1995, HHFH has built or renovated more than 73 houses throughout the city of Benton Harbor.

<http://www.michigan.gov/mcsc>

Michigan Community Service Commission

CONTACT: Elyse Ver Berkmoes of Michigan Community Service Commission,  
Communications Specialist, 1-517-241-0063, cell: 1-269-845-2227,  
[verberkmoese@michigan.gov](mailto:verberkmoese@michigan.gov)

Web Site: <http://www.michigan.gov/mcsc>

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### Comments

[WMU Home](#) > [WMU News](#) >

## Senior wins American Humanics award

June 11, 2008

KALAMAZOO--Western Michigan University student Lateshia Agnew was one of 66 students nationwide identified as future leaders in nonprofit work and philanthropy.

Agnew of Kalamazoo and other reward recipients will each receive a \$4,500 scholarship through the Next Generation Nonprofit Leaders Program to cover expenses while completing an internship with a nonprofit organization. A senior majoring in family studies, Agnew will undertake a minimum 300-hour internship with the Michigan Department of Human Services.

In addition to the scholarship, each NextGen Leader is paired with a nonprofit professional mentor during the internship. They also will be recognized at the 2009 American Humanics Management/Leadership Institute in Indianapolis, Ind., an annual educational symposium.

Established in 1948, American Humanics is a national alliance of colleges, universities and nonprofits dedicated to preparing the next generation of nonprofit sector leaders. It is affiliated with 67 colleges and universities and 58 national nonprofit organizations and their affiliates and is underwritten by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

**Media contact:** Deanne Molinari, (269) 387-8400,  
[deanne.molinari@wmich.edu](mailto:deanne.molinari@wmich.edu)

WMU News  
Office of University Relations  
Western Michigan University  
1903 W Michigan Ave  
Kalamazoo MI 49008-5433 USA  
(269) 387-8400  
[www.wmich.edu/wmu/news](http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news)